

CHAPTER 77

AN ACT requiring school bus drivers to inspect bus for pupils remaining and supplementing "School Bus Safety Act," P.L.2003, c.19 (C.18A:39-26 et seq.)

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

C.18A:39-28 Inspection of school bus for pupils by driver at end of transportation route.

1. A school bus driver shall visually inspect the school bus to which he is assigned at the end of the transportation route to determine that no pupil has been left on the bus. For the purposes of this act, "school bus" means every motor vehicle operated by, or under contract with, a public or governmental agency, or religious or other charitable organization or corporation, or privately operated for compensation for the transportation of children to or from school for secular or religious education, which complies with the regulations of the Department of Education affecting school buses, including "School Vehicle Type I" and "School Vehicle Type II" as defined pursuant to R.S.39:1-1.

C.18A:39-29 Violation, suspension, revocation of school bus endorsement.

2. In the event that, after notice and opportunity to be heard, a school bus driver is found to have left a pupil on the school bus at the end of his route, his school bus endorsement shall be:

- a. suspended for six months, for a first offense; or
- b. permanently revoked, for a second offense.

C.18A:39-30 Permanent revocation for gross negligence.

3. In the event that a pupil, who was left on a bus by a school bus driver at the end of the route, is harmed as a result of foreseeable danger and the driver is found, after notice and opportunity to be heard, to have acted with gross negligence, his school bus endorsement shall be permanently revoked.

4. This act shall take effect immediately

Approved May 4, 2007.